

NORTH COTSWOLD RURAL DISTRICT.

HEALTH
28 NOV 41

ANNUAL REPORTOF THEMEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.FOR THE YEAR 1940.

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.Medical Officer of Health.

Stephen Knight, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
(since 1st September, 1939, serving in R.A.M.C.)

Deputy Acting Medical Officer of Health.

J.E. Jameson, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.R.C.O.G.,

Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Inspector.

J.E. Busfield, Testamur Institution of Municipal and County
Engineers; Certificated Sanitary Inspector;
Certificated Meats and Foods Inspector;
Sanitary Science Certificate.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors.

D.B. Jones - Certificated Sanitary Inspector.

D.E. Jacob - Certificated Sanitary Inspector.

Council Offices,
MORETON-IN-MARSH,
Glos.

S E C T I O N A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	86,218.
Registrar-General's estimate of -	
(a) Resident population - mid 1940.)	17,360.
(b) Average population appropriate to) the calculation of death rates -)	
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940 according to the Rate Books -	4,947.
Rateable Value	£78,389.
Sum represented by a penny rate -	£339.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The people in the district are mainly engaged in agriculture, market gardening, fruit growing, and associated occupations.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
Legitimate	224	111	113
Illegitimate	12	6	6
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	13.5

STILL BIRTHS.

Legitimate	10	4	6
Illegitimate	nil	nil	nil
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			40 6

<u>DEATHS.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
	238	121	117
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated average population	...	...	13.7

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)</u>
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis	nil	nil
No. 30 Other puerperal causes	nil	nil
Total	nil	nil

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 live births	34.4
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	29.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	83.3
DEATHS FROM CANCER (all ages)	27
" " MEASLES (all ages)	nil
" " WHOOPING COUGH (all ages)	nil
" " DIARRHOEA (under 2 years of age)	nil

GENERAL COMMENT.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year, nor have there been any specially noteworthy causes of sickness or invalidity requiring comment.

Owing to the war approximately 681 children were received in the area from London, under the Government Evacuation Scheme.

S E C T I O N B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The County Council have arrangements for the examination of sputum, swabs and other pathological material at the Cheltenham General Hospital. As a wartime measure additional laboratory facilities are now available at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, South Parks Road, Oxford.

2. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) Infectious cases. The ambulance service is provided by the Delancey Isolation Hospital, Cheltenham.

(b) Other cases. The Cheltenham Ambulance Service is under agreement with the Council to serve the whole area. In addition A.R.P. Services maintain five whole-time ambulances and four part-time ambulances in the area. The service is adequate.

3. NURSING IN THE HOME.

The whole area is covered by the District Nursing Associations.

4. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Stow-on-the-Wold.	1st and 3rd Tuesdays.
Blockley.	Alternate Wednesdays.
Moreton-in-Marsh.	2nd Tuesdays.
Bourton-on-the-Water.	2nd and 4th Fridays.
Campden.	2nd and 4th Mondays.

5. HOSPITALS.

(a) Voluntary.

Moreton District Hospital (Maternity, Medical and Surgical)
Bourton-on-the-Water Cottage Hospital (Medical and Surgical)

(b) Infectious.

The Delancey Isolation Hospital, Cheltenham.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(1) (a) Particulars of new sources of Public Supply.

During the year the Council's Comprehensive water supply continued to function in a satisfactory manner. In addition, as a result of negotiations with the Air Ministry, plans were prepared for the construction of new collecting works, and pumping station at Upper Swell, with a new rising main to Donnington where the existing reservoirs are to be extended and the extension of the main at Moreton to the new R.A.F. Station, and work on this scheme was begun towards the close of the year. Brief particulars are as follows: Two collecting wells at the springs each of 90,000 gallons capacity, pumping station on the same site with 18,000 gallon per hour centrifugal pump actuated by 65 horse power diesel engine. A seven inch rising main from the new works to the reservoir at Donnington, extended to 150,000 gallons capacity by the provision of a reinforced concrete reservoir of 90,000 gallons capacity. Extension of the 5" delivery main from Moreton-in-Marsh High Street, along the Todenham Road to R.A.F. Station site, a distance of some 3,500 yards.

(b) Particulars of extension of existing mains.

Extension of 3" main at Mickleton along the Stratford Road to the boundary with Stratford Rural District, a distance of some 2,200 yards in progress, for the purpose of augmenting the Stratford Rural District Council's supply.

(c) Measures taken and/or in force for discovery of sources of contamination (including number of samples taken for examination) Sampling of supplies, both public and private, in all parishes. A total of 72 samples taken during the year.

(d) Number of new connections with public Supply 75.

(e) Particulars of supply where unsatisfactory in quality or in quantity.

As mentioned in the report for 1939 the supplies at Todenham and Evenlode are known to be unsatisfactory in quality, and in addition the supplies at Westcote, Naunton and Icomb are unsatisfactory in quality and quantity.

It should be mentioned that at Great Rissington, where the supply is raised by a ram, a shortage was experienced in the late summer months, but this was overcome by the provision of a small petrol driven pump which eliminated the waste caused by the ram. The village is now normally supplied through the ram with the pump ready for use as a standby.

(2) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

(a) Particulars of new schemes completed during the year - nil.

(b) New works commenced during the year - nil.

(c) Particulars of contemplated works.

(1) Relaying of portion of sewer at Lower Swell.

(2) Extension of sewage disposal works at Moreton-in-Marsh to enable sewage from new R.A.F. Station to be treated at the works. Proposals include additional settlement tank, four percolating filters, two humus tanks, new 9" effluent drain and new sludge drying beds.

(d) Particulars of parishes where there is need of

(1) Sewerage system - Pollution of ditches occurs at
Mickleton, Willersey and Bourton-
on-the-Hill.

(2) Improvements in existing sewerage - Lower Swell.

(3) Improvements in sewage disposal - nil.

(3) RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Action taken to check the pollution of rivers and streams
in the area.

The system of emptying cesspools at Bledington was continued
with success.

(4) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

(a) Number of earth closets, pail closets or improved privies
constructed - 10.

(b) Number of replacements of earth closets etc. by W.Cs. - 35.

(5) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

All parishes in the district are covered by the system of
refuse collection and disposal. During the year the Council
contracted for the removal and disposal of refuse from the
R.A.F. Station at Little Rissington.

The emptying of latrine buckets for the troops stationed
in the district was continued.

The most important change in connection with refuse
collection was the inauguration of a salvage system and at the
end of the year the materials salvaged for the first ten months
of the scheme were as follows:-

	<u>Quantity.</u>	<u>Value estimated.</u>	
Paper	81 tons	£298	"
Metal	193 "	£359	"
Rags	4 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	£33	"
Bones	3 "	£9	"
Glass	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	£5	"

(6) SANITARY INSPECTION.

(a)	Inspections made	...	...	1,971
(b)	Nuisances discovered or reported	...	...	160
	" " " " Swine only	...	...	1
(c)	Complaints received	...	...	349
(d)	Informal or preliminary notices sent	...	...	160
(e)	Statutory Notices sent..	...	...	nil
(f)	Nuisances abated	...	...	127
(g)	Summonses issued	...	...	1
(h)	Convictions obtained	...	...	1

(7) PREMISES OR OCCUPATIONS SUBJECT TO STATUTORY CONTROL.

(a) Shops and Offices.

Number inspected	...	...	48.
Number of inspections made	...	...	73.

Particulars of action taken during the year

(1)	Under Shop Acts 1934	...	No action taken
(2)	Under Public Health Act 1936	...	" " "

(b) Factories with Power.

Number inspected	...	...	19.
Number of inspections made	...	...	27.

(c) Factories without Power.

Number inspected	...	...	15.
Number of inspections made	...	...	21.

(d) Bakehouses.

Number inspected	...	...	15.
Number of inspections made	...	...	20.

(e) Offensive Trades.

No offensive trades in the district.

(f) Outworkers Residences.

Number inspected	...	...	8.
Number of inspections made	...	...	8.

All outworkers residences are used for the manufacture of gloves and conditions were found to be quite satisfactory.

(g) Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Number inspected	...	...	45.
Number of inspections made	...	...	63.

Action taken.

Byelaws for tents, vans and sheds, and fruit pickers lodgings are in operation.
Conditions generally showed improvement during the pea and fruit picking seasons.

(h) Canal Boats.

Nil.

(i) Cowsheds and Dairies.

Number inspected	...	...	152.
Number of inspections made	...	...	175.

Action taken.

Improvements to many cowsheds and dairies were effected during the year.

Number of samples taken	77.
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Where found to be unsatisfactory advice was given to the producers concerned.

(j) Milk Shops - Nil.

(8) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No complaints and no action necessary.

(9) BUG ERADICATION.

	<u>Council Houses.</u>	<u>Other Houses.</u>
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(a) Number of houses found to be infested.

Nil

Nil

(b) Number of houses disinfected.

Nil

Nil

(c) Methods employed for freeing infested houses.

Blowlamp round walls and floors, destruction of bedding etc, where necessary.

(d) All houses subject to clearance or demolition orders are inspected but no instances or infestation have been found.

(10) SCHOOLS.

Piped water supplies from the comprehensive system have been provided to schools at Bledington, Longborough and Condicote.

(11) CAMPING SITES.

(1) Number of sites used for camping purposes during the year.- 5

(2) Number of sites in respect of which licences have been issued under Section 269 of Public Health Act 1936.- 1.

(3) Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season - 30.

(4) Remarks. Most Camping sites are used for very short periods, insufficient for registration. One permanent site was discontinued during the year and one new one was established.

(12) SWIMMING POOLS AND NATIONAL FACILITIES FOR SWIMMING.

(a) Particulars of any swimming baths or pools open to the public and action taken to ensure the satisfactory condition of the water.

(1) Publicly owned - Nil.

(2) Privately owned - one at Broad Campden.

(b) Particulars of any natural facilities for swimming in lakes, rivers, etc. in the area and the condition of the water for bathing.

(1) The River Windrush is used at a point below Bourton-on-the-Water, the water being quite suitable for this purpose

S E C T I O N D.

H O U S I N G.

(1) Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

- | | | |
|-----|--|------|
| (a) | 1. Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). | 542. |
| | 2. Number of inspections made for this purpose | 650. |
| (b) | 1. Number of houses included under above which were inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1937. | 110. |
| | 2. Number of inspections made for this purpose. | 135. |
| (c) | Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | Nil. |
| (d) | Number of houses exclusive of those referred to under (c) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. | 68. |

(2) Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action. 54

(3) Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:-

(a) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- | | | |
|----|--|------|
| 1. | Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. | 2. |
| 2. | Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices. | |
| | (a) By owners. | 2. |
| | (b) By Local Authority in default of owners. | Nil. |

(b) Proceedings under Housing Act 1936.
(Part II Repairs, Demolition, Closure).

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|----|--|------|
| 1. | Repairs (9, 10 and 16). | |
| | (a) Number of houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs | Nil. |
| | (b) Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices. | |
| | By owners. | 3. |
| | By Local Authority in default of owners. | Nil. |
| 2. | <u>Demolition (sections 11 and 13).</u> | |
| | (a) Number of houses in respect of which demolition orders made. | Nil. |
| | (b) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders. | 2. |

3. Closure of portions of buildings (Section 12).
 - (a) Number of separate tenements or under ground rooms in respect of which Closing Order made. Nil.
 - (b) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. Nil.

Part III. - (Clearance, Re-Development and Improvement Areas).

1. Clearance Area declarations made by Council. Nil.
2. Clearance Orders submitted and awaiting confirmation by Minister. Nil.
3. Clearance Orders submitted and rejected by Minister. Nil.
4. Clearance Orders submitted and confirmed by Minister. Nil.
5. Re-development Area Declarations made by Council. Nil.
6. Re-development Plans submitted and awaiting confirmation by Minister. Nil.
7. Re-development Plans submitted and rejected by Minister. Nil.
8. Re-development Plans submitted and confirmed by Minister. Nil.
9. Improvement Area Declarations made by Council. Nil.

Part IV. + (Overcrowding).

Owing partly to the influx of a large number of unofficial evacuees and partly to the importation of labour for the construction of military and R.A.F. Stations in the district, it has been impossible to keep pace with the conditions created as a result thereof. Very few serious cases of overcrowding have, however, been brought to the attention of the officials.

It is obvious, under war conditions, that, when townsfolk find refuge from bombing in the quieter country districts and when a large number of workmen, engaged on important Government work, have to be accommodated, some cases of overcrowding must occur. Dealing with the problem is one of extreme difficulty, but fortunately, so far as the North Cotswold area is concerned, it is one of limited duration since as the Government contracts are completed so the workmen move on to new jobs away from the district, taking their families with them. It is anticipated that the position will be more normal by the end of the summer of 1941.

Particulars relating specially to agricultural population.

Action under Housing Act 1936.

- (1) Number of houses provided for members of agricultural population to relieve overcrowding, and subject to Ministry and County Council Grants under Sections 108 and 115 (3). Nil.
- (2) Number of houses provided for members of the agricultural population, exclusive of those for the relief of overcrowding, and subject to grant from the County Council under Section 115 (2). Nil.

All new houses.

- (1) Total number of new houses erected during the year- 18
- (2) New houses erected during the year with State assistance under Housing Acts-
 - (a) By Local Authority- Nil.
 - (b) By other bodies or persons- Nil.
- (3) New houses erected during the year without subsidy-
 - (a) Council. 14.
 - (b) Others. 4.
- (4) New Houses - during the year proposed to be erected under Housing Acts but not yet built. 36.

S E C T I O N E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

Dairies, Cow Sheds, Milk Shops.

Number inspected.	152.
Number of inspections.	175.

Improvements to many cowsheds and dairies were effected during the year. 77 samples of milk were taken and where these were found to be unsatisfactory, advice was given to the producers concerned.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

With the rationing of meat the slaughterhouses in the district were closed down, and the meat for the district was obtained, from the middle of January, from two centralised slaughterhouses, one at Cheltenham and one at Evesham.

Periodical inspections of the meat on arrival and in the shops were, nevertheless, carried out, and the small quantity of meat condemned is indicated below.

Some complaints were received as to the handling of the meat in transit, and certain improvements were effected in the manner in which the meat was carried in the vehicles. Even during the summer months it was pleasing to find that no exception could be taken to the condition of the meat after transport by lorry over fairly long distances. Nevertheless, one feels that a system of centralised slaughtering in the Council's own district would have caused less handling and been more efficient in many ways.

(c) Slaughter of Animals Act 1933.

At the end of the year there were 58 licensed slaughtermen, but it is anticipated that few will renew their licences owing to the centralisation of slaughtering.

(d) Meat and Food Condemned During 1941.

- (1) Carcase of Lamb.
- (2) 1 Beast's liver.
- (3) 1 Collar of bacon.
- (4) 3 Tins of meat (20 lbs).

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

During the year 1940.

Disease.	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospitals.	Total deaths.
Smallpox.	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever.	46	23	—
Diphtheria.	10	6	1
Enteric Fever.	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia.	2	2	—
<u>Other diseases generally notifiable.</u>			
Pneumonia.	10	—	7
Erysipelas.	10	—	—
Cerebro spinal meningities.	13	13	2
Measles.	217	5	—
Whooping cough.	2	—	—

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1940.

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	4	2	—	1	1	1	—	—
35	—	2	1	—	—	1	1	1
45	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	7	6	2	2	2	2	1	1

